

**NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES of the MEETING of Nailsworth Town Council**  
held at the Town Hall, Nailsworth  
**on Tuesday 15 November 2011**

Present	* Cllr S Robinson (Town Mayor) Cllr P Carter Cllr N Dart Cllr J L Duckworth Cllr Mrs A Elliott Cllr MJ Kelly Cllr M M Rahman Cllr Mrs SM Reed Cllr M P Robinson Cllr Mrs S E Thorpe
Present for part of the meeting	County Cllr WS Waddington, District Cllr Catherine Farrell
Apologies	District Cllrs RTH Blackwell
Non attendance	Cllr N I Kay
	* denotes absence from part of the meeting

**2011/147 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions from the floor

**2011/148 MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2011 were approved and signed.

**2011/149 REORGANISATION of NTC WEBSITE/EMAIL** (minute 2011/132)

The Clerk had been having great problems with her Pipex email and was currently using a temporary gmail address, to which her nailsworthtown emails were being redirected.

Cllr Duckworth reported that he had entered discussions with Bruce Burn about changing the web/emails and the gov.uk domain name had to be registered in the first instance.

Members of the Communications Committee approved the amendments to the minutes of their meeting held on 12 October.

**2011/150 RAILINGS for MARKET STREET GARDEN** (minute 2011/134)

In the event, the preferred railing design had been discontinued and an alternative had been chosen. Cllrs were pleased with the garden's progress. The electric power line, due to go in today, had been put off until Monday following discovery of a minor problem. British Gas would then need to make the connection before power could be used.

**2011/151 EMPLOYMENT of ASSISTANT to the TOWN CLERK** (minute 2011/137)

The advert went into the SNJ and associated papers last week and there had been 62 responses so far. The Clerk thanked Cllrs Mrs Elliott and Thorpe for helping to prepare the application packs to be sent out.

**2011/152 IMPROVEMENTS to LOCAL BROADBAND** (minute 2011/138)

Cllr Duckworth reported that the leaflets had had to be reprinted, and 750 would be coming soon.

**2011/153 COMPLAINT about SITE ADJACENT to ONDINE, NEWMARKET ROAD**  
(minute 2011/143)

Cllr M Robinson would monitor the situation after speaking to the owner of the site who had agreed to tidy it up and make it secure.

**2011/154 REPORT of COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

**County Cllr Waddington** advised that the result of the **judicial review into Libraries** was still outstanding.

GCC was starting the **budget process** with a series of public consultations events.

A second public exhibition would take place at **Javelin Park** this coming weekend for the remaining two bidders to present their proposals, with a final decision to be made in December.

Cllr Mrs Thorpe asked Cllr Waddington to do his utmost to support continued **funding for children's centres**, which she understood were no longer ring fenced. Nailsworth had built up an important partnership with the Parliament Street Centre which operated out of the Arkell Centre, and she felt the service provided very important community support, especially with the cuts having so greatly affected youth services in general. Cllr Waddington recommended that NTC write in expressing its concerns. He believed a local event was taking place later this week and would forward the details.

The Mayor thanked Cllr Waddington for his support in getting **Nympsfield Road/Spring Hill resurfaced**, although he was disappointed at the postponement of the **Old Market** work, particularly after GCC had published the legal notices, which was an expensive process. **The W** was in dire need of attention and Cllr Waddington advised that full resurfacing of this road was in the programme for 2013.

Cllr Kelly reminded Cllr Waddington that he had promised a **speed survey on Spring Hill** and Cllr Waddington would chase this up. Cllr Kelly expressed frustration at the lack of notice taken by SDC planning officers of NTC's comments, with which Cllr Waddington as a parish cllr at Minchinhampton readily concurred.

**2011/155 TOWN MAYORs COMMUNICATIONS**

24 October	with other Cllrs, lunched with a party from Norway visiting Nailsworth and Ruskin Mill
2 November	met to discuss with Cllrs Mrs Thorpe and SDC officers, antisocial behaviour problems at Lawnside and around the Arkell Centre
8 November	the Mayor thanked those who had attended the fund raising evening at Passage to India which had raised £1700 for the youth club. He added that the youth worker was on sick leave and he was coordinating and participating in her cover
9 November	attended a meeting of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee committee with plans progressing for events to take place on Monday 4 June
13 November	attended the RBL parade and ceremonies for Remembrance Day
14 November	attended the Nailsworth Olympics meeting. The main events would take place on 14 July at the Primary School. Cllr Mrs Elliott would be writing to the organisations which participated in the last event after Christmas.

**2011/156 REPORT of DEPUTY MAYOR**

Cllr Mrs Thorpe had attended a presentation by Gloucestershire Links, a local consumer voice for health and social care. The organisation takes up with health service providers, issues of concern voiced by users of their services. The organisation would next year be renamed Local Health Watch.

The Village Agent was beginning to get calls to help with local problems. Cllr Mrs Thorpe had discussed with Ms Bendall social care support in the home for vulnerable people.

A meeting of the Energy Neighbourhoods Competition had taken place, with two groups now signed up in Nailsworth. The competition started on 1 December to run for four months, with the aim of trying to reduce energy consumption by changing behaviour. 10 energy monitors were available from the Library. Top tips for a green Christmas: wrap presents in newspaper and shop local.

**2011/157 REPORT of TOWN CLERK**

Cllrs Mrs Elliott and Mrs Reed indicated that they would like to attend the training course for Cllrs on 25 January at Highnam, from 10 to 12.30 at a cost of £35 for GAPTC members (£70 for non members).

**2011/158 REPORT from REPRESENTATIVES on OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr Mrs Reed had attended the **NYCE** AGM and was pleased to see the improvements to the building and the activities emphasising education and young people with sport and crafts. A very interesting slide presentation was made documenting the history of the sub rooms from when they were built until the present day. The committee was currently raising funds for an external sign on the building.

**2011/159 REPORT of ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Cllr Mrs Reed presented the report of the meeting of the committee held on 7 November and the minutes were approved.

Cllr Mrs Thorpe provided some more information on the **Energy Neighbourhoods Competition**; Wendy Kelly was to be the 'energy master' for Cllr Kelly's group.

The Mayor advised that the new **Christmas lights** were now up and one of the **signboard frames** had been erected at Market Street corner. **Clearance on the W** would carry on until March and volunteers were welcome to join the working party which met every Tuesday at 1.30pm.

**2011/160 REPORT of PLANNING COMMITTEE**

In the absence of the chairman, the Mayor presented the reports of the meetings held on 20 October and 1 November.

Meeting of 20 Oct

Cllr M Robinson had been advised by **Renishaws** that a planning application had been made for the back of the building to restore the stone mill building and deal with the redbrick remains around it. There was some debate as to which parish was concerned as the north side of Gidynap Lane was in Woodchester, but the south side might belong elsewhere. The Clerk referred members to the Town Plan which included maps showing all parish boundaries.

Cllr Mrs Thorpe queried the comment about using **garage sites** for housing and felt the issue needed more consultation. Cllr Carter had established that only half of the Lawnside garages were in use, but the Clerk wondered if residents were aware that garages were available to rent. Cllr M Robinson advised that the sites were owned by SDC, and NTC was merely seeking information on the situation. The Mayor added that there were two years left to spend £200k on affordable housing in Nailsworth, although Cllr Mrs Thorpe thought the time limit could be extended. Pending further enquiry the Clerk would await further instructions before writing to SDC.

Meeting of 1 November

Cllr Kelly reported on his walk around the town with Cllr Carter to talk to traders about **A frames**. He thought the next stage should be to circulate guidance from SDC. Some A boards were obstructing pavements; other traders put signs far away from their premises. Planning recommendations stipulated that 1200mm / 4ft of clear pavement was required.

<b>RESOLVED</b>	<b>that the comments made by the Planning Committee at its meeting held 20 October and 1 November 2011 be approved.</b>
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**2011/161 MEMBERSHIP of GAPTC**

The Mayor reminded Cllrs of the motion put forward to the GAPTC AGM last year, asking that it press SDC to establish a consultation charter with P&TCs. The motion was supported by other parishes and carried at the meeting. GAPTC had eventually discussed the matter with David Hagg SDC, who had dismissed the suggestion and GAPTC had then proposed that parishes might have more success if they lobbied SDC individually via their ward cllrs. Cllr Kay was particularly dissatisfied with GAPTC's handling of the situation and had made this quite clear at the GAPTC AGM on 13 October. GAPTC had subsequently written formally to NTC responding to Cllr Kay's comments, which it assumed represented the council's view, and offering to come and speak to NTC about the merits of membership.

Cllr Kay had indicated at the AGM that NTC was considering withdrawing its membership of GAPTC, although this had never been discussed by Nailsworth Council and GAPTC officers had been upset and concerned by his remarks.

Both the Mayor, Clerk and Cllrs who had had occasion to use its services, felt that membership of GAPTC was invaluable to NTC, and provided useful help and advice in many areas, along with access to legal advice. The Mayor had read GAPTC's letter to Cllr Kay who had agreed that his comments had been fairly reported. Cllr M Robinson hoped that Cllr Kay would be able to clarify his position at the next meeting. Cllr Mrs Reed offered to facilitate a discussion if this would be helpful.

**PROPOSED Cllr M Robinson proposed, seconded by Cllr Duckworth that no decision be taken on renewing membership of GAPTC before the next meeting. The motion failed with 5 against, 4 in favour and 1 abstention.**

**PROPOSED Cllr Mrs Thorpe proposed, seconded by Cllr Mrs Reed that the Clerk respond to GAPTC now that NTC would be renewing its membership when it expired next May. The motion was carried with 5 in favour, 3 against and 2 abstentions.**

Cllrs were reminded that when in public, they should be clear on whether their comments were made on behalf of and endorsed by the council, as opposed to the expression of personal opinions.

**2011/162 ACCOUNTS**

Cllr Kelly asked if he could have a copy of the accounts the day before the meeting and the Clerk would try to comply with this request, whilst accepting that additional invoices might need to be added before the meeting.

<b>PROPOSED</b>	<b>that the list of accounts for 15 November 2011 amounting to £20,209.15 be approved for payment.</b>
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**2011/163 MARKET STREET GARDEN**

There would be a site meeting with the architect at 10am next Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to sign off the work prior to final payment, excluding £900 retention for 6 months. The Mayor mentioned that the original Cotswold stone lower wall, which was not part of the rebuilding contract, had some very damaged stone, and he had asked John Byrne to suggest how best to repair it.

**2011/164 GCC – road closure Old Horsley Road**

The road would be closed from 28 to 30 December for BT works.

**2011/165 SDC – annual meeting with P&TCs - 6 December**

David Hagg had sent advance notice of the annual SDC meeting on Tuesday 6 December at 7pm, to be preceded by a light supper served from 6pm. Cllrs were invited to come from 4.30pm for a planning update and to meet SDC planning officers. The Clerk was asked to write and ask that Mr

Hagg put on his agenda the setting up of a consultation charter between SDC and P&TCs. The Mayor would attend the event.

\* Cllr Carter joined the meeting

**2011/166           Glos fire & Rescue – revision of integrated Risk Management Plan**

Early views were sought at the start of the formal consultation on key areas for improving the level of support. The current plan could be viewed on the website [www.glosfire.gov.uk/irmp](http://www.glosfire.gov.uk/irmp) . It would be easier to review the proposals following production of the written document.

**2011/167           GPFA - AGM 6 December 3pm Tewkesbury**

The AGM of the Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association would take place on 6 December. Membership at a cost of £100 had just been renewed and the Clerk advised that this organisation provided helpful advice.

**2011/168           Boundary Commission – final recommendations for new electoral arrangement for GCC**

The document could be viewed on the website. Recommendations had been decided and sent to parliament for approval. There were no proposals affecting Nailsworth’s boundaries.

**2011/169           Questions of District Cllr Carter**

The Mayor asked if SDC planned another meeting with NTC before taking a decision on **parking charges**, and Cllr Carter believed a letter from David Hagg was on its way offering another meeting if required.

Further to the Mayor’s letter of 21 September asking for an explanation of the half payment of the **youth grant for Nailsworth Youth Club**, Cllr Carter advised that he had had a non committal response from Stephen Miles in the absence of Karen Toole who was on long term sick leave, and he would follow this up.

**2011/170           date of Planning Committee meeting**

Cllr Carter requested that the date of the rescheduled Planning Meeting revert to 15 December, although this meant there would be meetings in two consecutive weeks.

..... Chairman

..... Date